

225 W. Randolph     **Michael S. Pabian**  
25D                     Counsel  
Chicago, IL 60606  
312-727-2424  
312-845-8979

**VIA e-docket**

February 26, 2001

Ms. Donna Caton  
Chief Clerk  
Illinois Commerce Commission  
527 East Capitol Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62701

RE: Docket No. 00-0592, Ameritech Illinois Report on Synchronization of Ordering and Pre-Ordering Interfaces

Dear Ms. Caton:

Pursuant to the Commission's Order of January 24, 2001, in the above-captioned proceeding Ameritech Illinois submits the attached report concerning the feasibility of the synchronization of its ordering and pre-ordering interfaces.

As the attached report shows, there are significant differences in how the unavailability of back-end systems affects the availability of the front-end OSS interfaces for ordering and pre-ordering. In the case of ordering, the back-end system can be down for maintenance while the ordering OSS interface is still available for CLEC use. Orders are received and simply held in queue until the back-end ordering system is available. On the other hand, the pre-ordering function requires that CLECs be able to retrieve information from various back-end databases on a "real-time" basis. Therefore, when relevant back-end information systems are down for maintenance or repair, the pre-order OSS interface, is essentially useless.

These facts mean that the complete synchronization of the availability of the ordering and pre-ordering OSS interfaces (by expanding the availability of the pre-ordering interface — as opposed to reducing the availability of the ordering interface) is substantially infeasible without massive expenditures to duplicate back-end systems that would inure to the benefits solely of CLECs. It must be remembered that the total hours that the systems are available to CLECs currently exceed the hours that they are available to Ameritech Illinois' own retail operations.

Sincerely,  
/s/Michael S. Pabian

MSP/bg  
Attachment  
cc: via electronic mail the 00-0592 Service List